GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4303
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2002
PRODUCTION OF FRUITS VEGETABLES AND FLORICULTURE
CHINMAYANAND;SURESH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of fruits, vegetables and floriculture recorded during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the problems being faced by the producers of these items;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Government propose to make arrangements to provide scientific and technical facilities to the farmers for the production of fruits, flowers, vegetables; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): The available data on the quantity of production of fruits, vegetables and flowers are as under:

(Production in 000 tonnes)

Year	Fruits	Vegetables	Flowers
			Loose Cut (Lakh No)
1997-98	43263	72683	367 6222
1998-99	44042	87536	419 6428
1999-2000	45490	90830	509 6806

(b) & (c): The Government is aware about the difficulties being faced by the farmers both with regard to production and disposal of the produce. Inadequate availability of disease free quality planting material, slow dissemination and adaptability of improved high yielding cultivars/hybrids, inadequate facility for identification of nutrient deficiency and disorders, inadequate infrastructure for post harvest management, poor market intelligence, instability of price, and poor credit support are some of the serious problems being faced by the farmers.

(d) to (f): The Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Schemeon Macro Management in Agriculture − Supplementation / Complementation of StatesEfforts through Work Plans under which the State Governments can prioritize their programmes according to their need and requirement. Under this scheme there is provision to provide scientific and technical facilities such as seeds and planting material of improved varieties, creation of facilities like Tissue / Leaf Analysis Labs, Plant Health Clinics, Disease Forecasting Units, Model Floriculture Centres, support fordrip irrigation and protected cultivation. Technology dissemination through demonstrations, training programmes and distribution of technical literature are also taken up for the benefit of the farmers. Besides, the following Schemes are being implemented to address the post harvest management issues;

(i) Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post-harvest Management.

(ii) Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Modernization/Expansion of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticultural Produce.

(iii) Market Information service for Horticulture crops.
In order to protect the interest of the growers, Market Intervention Scheme is alsobeing implemented wherein purchase operations are done on the request of the State Governments.